

House Republican Press Release

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Rep. Hetherington Named Ranking Member on Legislature's Labor Committee



State Rep. John W. Hetherington, R-125, New Canaan, Wilton, has been named ranking member on the state legislature's Labor and Public Employees Committee. He also will serve as a member of the Transportation Committee and the Program Review and Investigations Committee.

The Labor Committee is responsible for issues such as workers compensation, unemployment insurance, conditions of employment, hours of labor, minimum wages, industrial safety, occupational health and safety, labor unions and labor disputes, all matters relating to the state Department of Labor, and matters relating to conditions of employment of state and municipal employees and their collective bargaining.

"This is a very important and challenging assignment," said Rep. Hetherington. "We will be working to protect all Connecticut employees, while encouraging the expansion and retention of jobs in the state. New England has been lagging the nation in job creation, and this should be a concern of the entire legislature."

On the transportation committee, Rep. Hetherington will focus on improving service to the Metro-North rail commuters throughout southern Connecticut. On the Program Review committee, he will play a role in assuring that state government programs work effectively and properly serve the public.

Rep. Hetherington has an extensive background in business, law and community service. Until 2002, Rep. Hetherington served as vice president and secretary of MeadWestvaco Corporation, a major public company manufacturing packaging, paper and specialty chemicals, where he focused on corporate governance issues. He is the author of numerous articles published in professional journals.

In his home community of New Canaan, he served as chair of the town's Board of Assessment Appeals from 2000 to 2003, and was a councilman from 1989 to 1997. He also was chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Charter Revision, and as a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals.